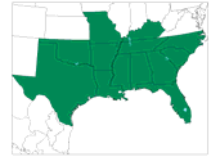


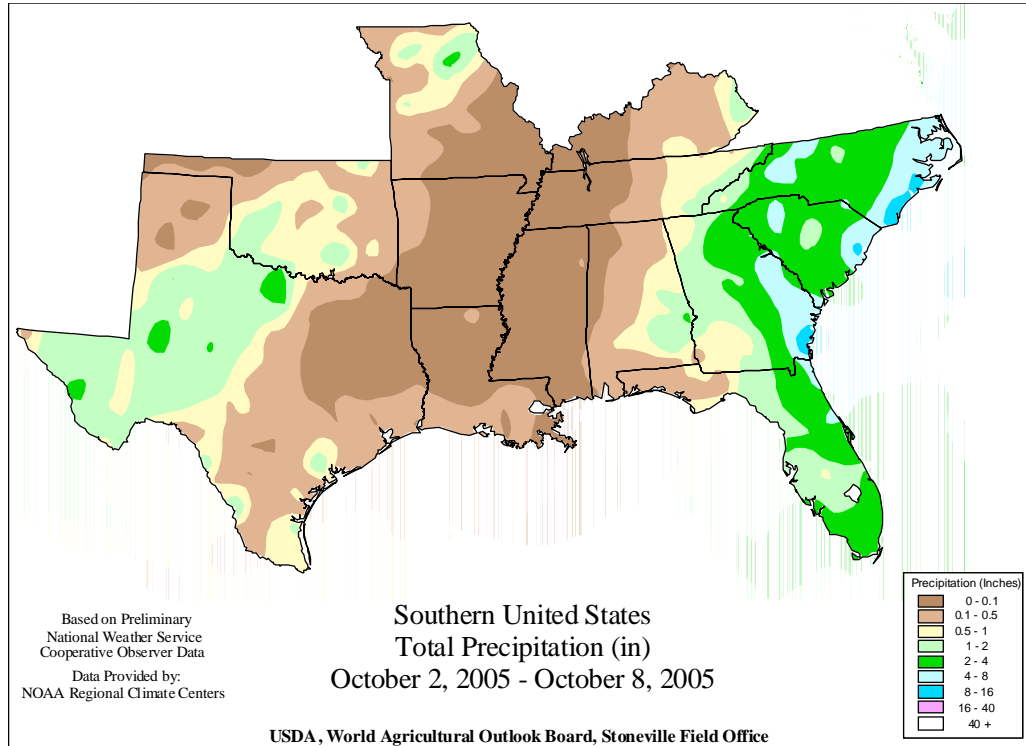


**Office of the Chief Economist
World Agricultural Outlook Board
Stoneville Field Office**



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER REPORT

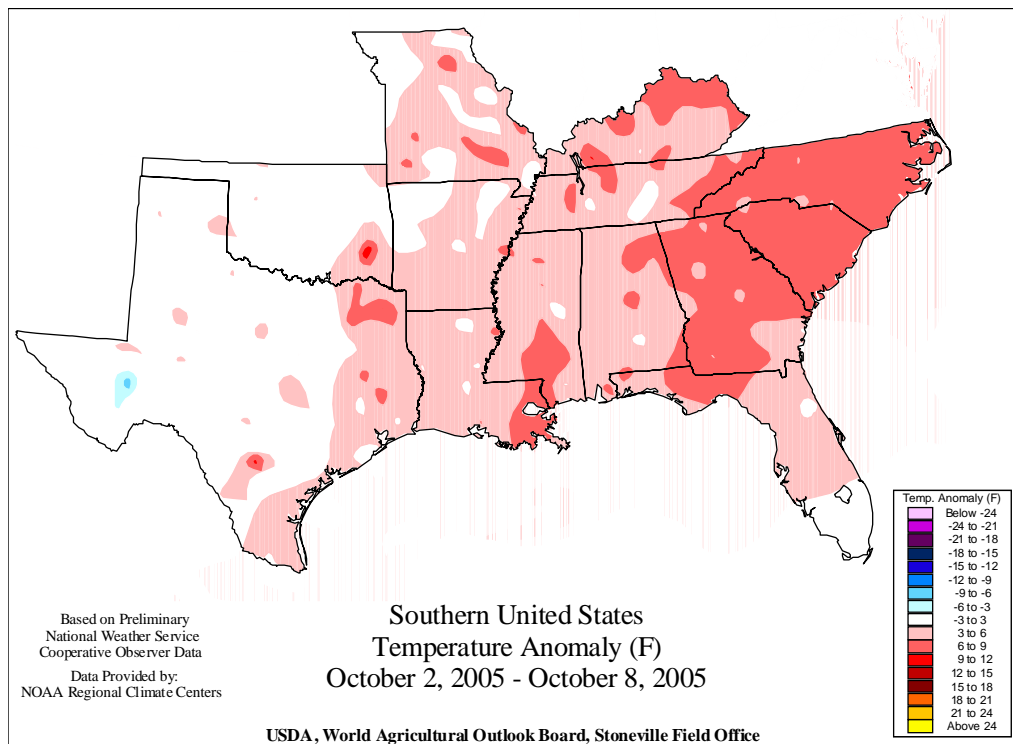
October 2 to October 8, 2005



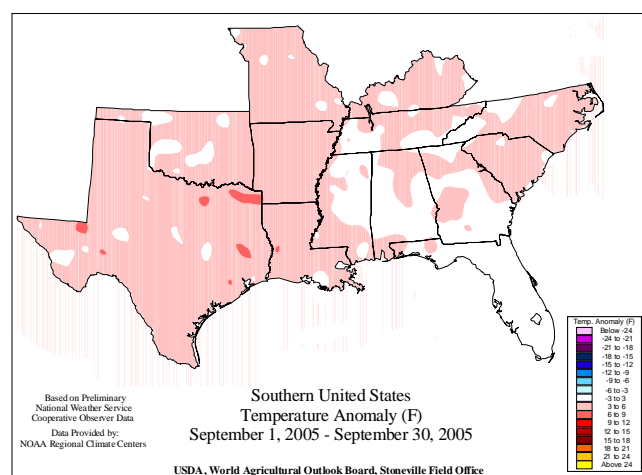
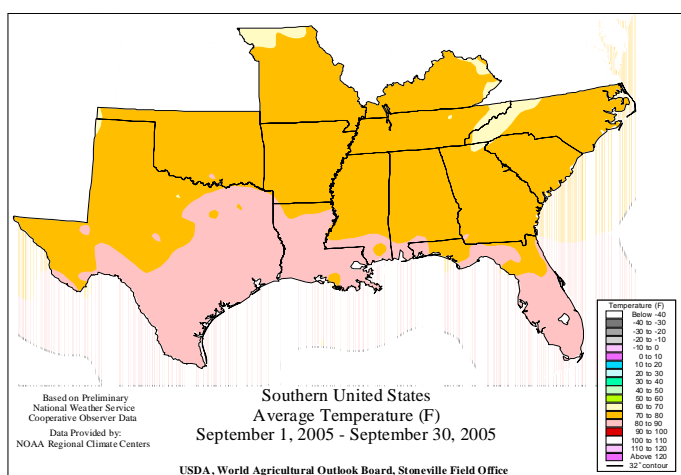
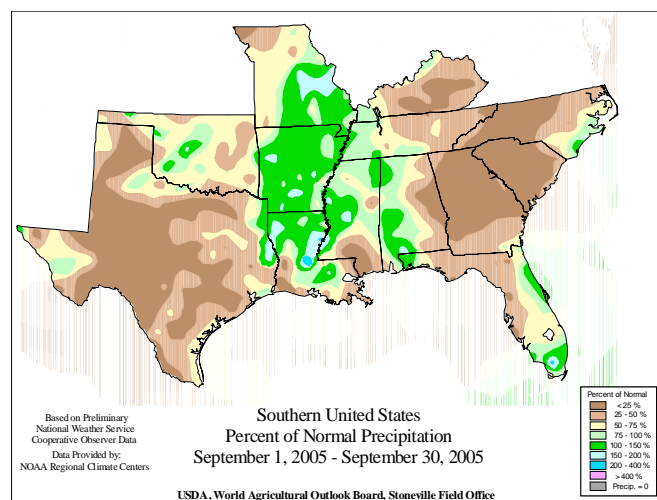
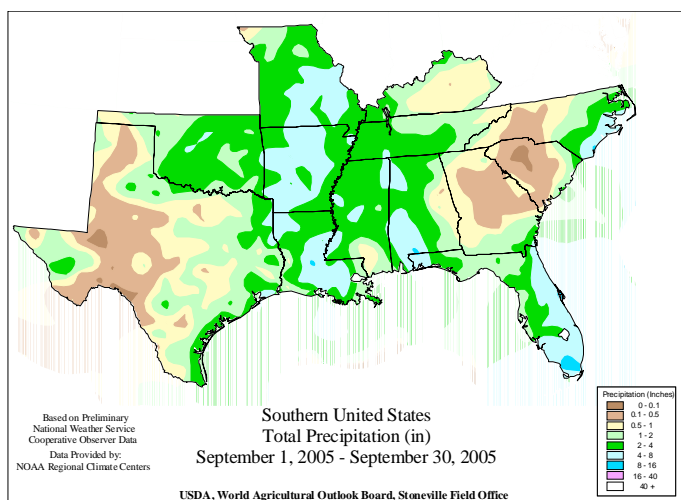
Weather Highlights

Wet weather largely prevailed along the East Coast during the week, and to a smaller degree, in areas west. Tropical Storm Tammy brought widespread rainfall to Florida, with the remnants producing flooding rains of up to 16 inches in Georgia and the Carolinas. In areas westward, showers provided .50 to 2 inches or more of rain in Texas, Oklahoma, and Missouri.

Weekly temperatures in most areas east of the Mississippi River were above normal during the week, averaging 3 to 6 degrees F above normal. A large area along the Atlantic coast and areas along the Gulf Coast reported temperatures that averaged up to 9 degrees F above normal, especially in Georgia and the Carolinas. Near-normal temperatures were mostly confined to Oklahoma and Texas.



The Mississippi Delta experienced tranquil weather during the week. There was no rainfall, but plenty of sunshine and warm weather. As highs continued to reach the lower 90's, temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees F above normal, and isolated areas up to 9 degrees F above normal. The dry conditions continued to aid harvesting efforts, but the lower humidities increased the risk of fire hazards and burning, especially from the additional hurricane debris over past weeks.



September Weather Summary:

The month of September was described as the “warmest” and “driest” on record per NWS in some states, yet other areas received above-normal rainfall. Such warm weather occurred in College Station, Texas which broke a record for the latest and highest 100 degree F reading since 1938. That city also recorded the driest September on record. Nashville, Tennessee reported a warm, dry month, but western parts of Tennessee benefited from 1 to 3 inches of rainfall from the remnants of Hurricane Rita. Rainfall in the interior portions, especially areas along the Mississippi River Valley, ranged from 75 to 400 percent of normal, mostly from the tropical activity of Rita. Florida was affected by the presence of two tropical systems, Ophelia and Rita, receiving 4 to 16 inches of rainfall during the month. In other areas, Stoneville, Mississippi recorded the 6th highest precipitation total for September (7.73 inches) due to the remnants of Rita. Pensacola, Florida also recorded an inch above average, with rainfall recorded at 7.10 inches.

The weather was hot in most states during the month, with temperatures averaging 3 to 6 degrees F above normal. Monthly temperatures in isolated areas of Texas averaged up to 9 degrees F above normal. Oklahoma also reported 5 degrees F above normal for highs, and 3 degrees F for lows per NWS. Most of Florida averaged near normal, but Pensacola recorded their 4th warmest September on record, per NWS, by 3.4 degrees F above normal. Monthly average temperatures in most of the region ranged from 70 to 80 degrees F, although a few areas in northern Missouri, Kentucky, and the Appalachians were cooler, averaging 60 to 70 degrees F. Texas, Louisiana, and Florida experienced the warmest weather of all the southern states, with monthly temperatures averaging 80 to 90 degrees F.

(For additional information, contact Nancy Lopez at 662-686-3395)

Agricultural Summary

United States Crop Progress Report*					
Week Ending					
		October 9, 2005	October 2, 2005	October 9, 2004	2000-2004 Average
		Percent			
Cotton	Bolls Opening	83	77	80	87
	Harvested	28	20	27	30
	Percent (Good to Excellent)	60	57	66	---
Corn	Mature	96	90	86	92
	Harvested	36	26	32	36
	Percent (Good to Excellent)	56	55	74	---
Rice	Harvested	86	72	90	87
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	97	93	93	93
	Harvested	60	36	55	51
	Percent (Good to Excellent)	57	56	66	---
*Source: USDA/National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)					
"---" = Not Reported					

Cotton:

Bolls were open on 83 percent of the acreage nationally, compared with 80 percent last year and 87 percent for the 5-year average. Twenty-eight percent of the crop had been harvested, 1 point ahead of last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Louisiana advanced 20 points and led all the southern states' harvesting progress, having 73 percent of their crop harvested, 11 points ahead of their 5-year average and 31 points ahead of last year. Harvest progressed 21 points in Mississippi (52 percent harvested) and 27 points in Arkansas (50 percent harvested), as ideal harvest weather prevailed through most of the southern states. Nationally, crop conditions improved 3 percentage points from the previous week to 60 percent of the crop rated good to excellent.

Corn:

Thirty-six percent of the nation's crop had been harvested, 4 points ahead of last year and equal to the 5-year average. Harvest was complete or neared completion in all of the southern states. Missouri was the furthest from completion at 77 percent harvested, 1 point ahead of their 5-year average. Nationally, crop acreage rated good to excellent improved 1 point from the previous week to 56 percent.

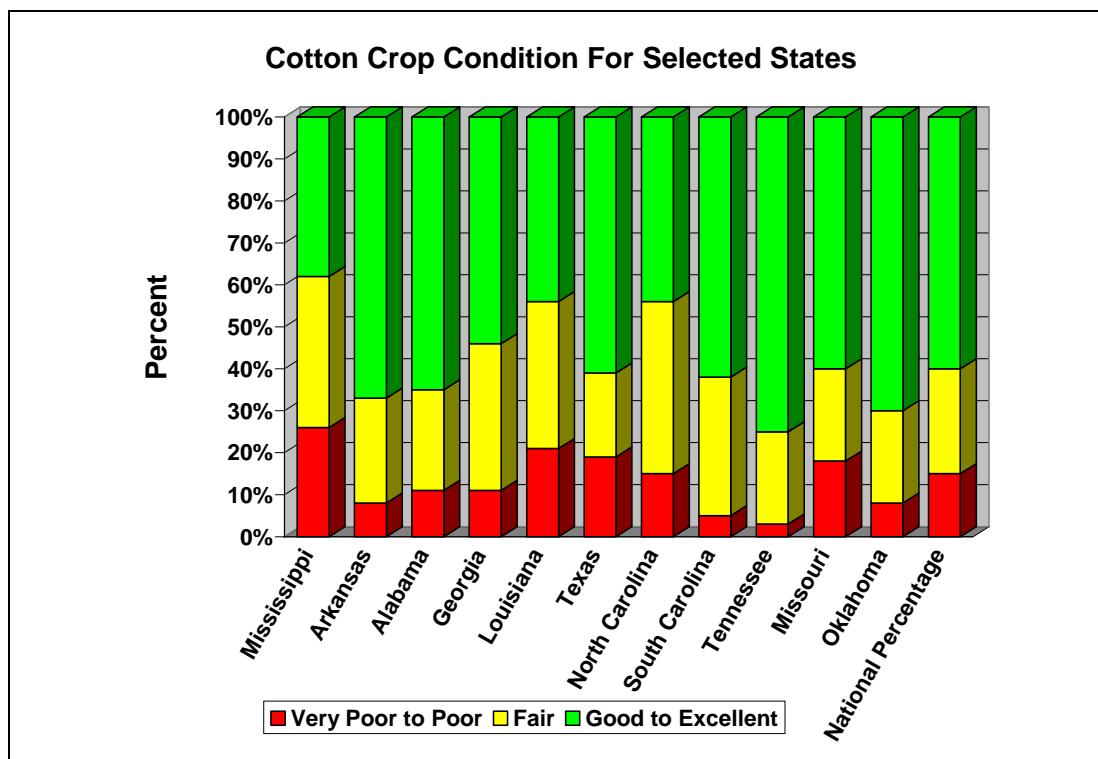
Rice:

Nationally, 86 percent of the acreage had been harvested, 4 points behind last year and 1 point behind the 5-year average pace. Harvest neared completion in all of the southern states and was completed in Texas. Although progress in Missouri lagged all the southern states, harvest advanced 25 points to 83 percent complete.

Soybeans:

Nationally, 60 percent of the soybean acres had been harvested, 5 points ahead of last year and 9 points ahead of the 5-year average pace. Progress was most advanced in Mississippi where 91 percent had been harvested.

Harvest progress in Georgia lagged all southern states, with 2 percent having been harvested. The U.S. soybean crop, with 57 percent of the acres rated good to excellent, improved 1 point from the previous week.



Cotton Conditions by State:

Nationally, 60 percent of the cotton acreage was rated good to excellent, a 3 point improvement from the previous week. Mississippi's crop condition estimate remained the same from the previous week, at 38 percent good to excellent, the lowest of any southern state. Louisiana's and North Carolina's cotton condition ratings, both at 44 percent good to excellent, followed Mississippi with the lowest crop condition ratings of the southern states. Tennessee (75 percent good to excellent) and Oklahoma (70 percent good to excellent) reported the best crop condition ratings of the southern states.

September Summary:

Soil moisture improved in Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, and the Mississippi Delta, while the drought expanded or worsened in Texas, North and South Carolina, parts of eastern Tennessee, Kentucky, and western Florida. Cotton condition ratings generally declined in the southern states due to impacts from Hurricane Rita, while soybean condition ratings generally improved. Cotton and soybean harvesting began or continued, while corn and rice harvesting reached or neared completion in the southern states.

(For additional information, contact Bart Freeland at 662-686-3280)